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A Letter from a Nobleman in London, to his Friend in the Country: Written
Some Months ago.

Now Published for the Common Good.

I Assure you, Sir, whatever you have heard to the contrary, my having been in and out in the present, as well as the two former Reigns, proceeds not from any incompatibility or uncer-
tainty of humour, but from a true *English* Temper and Spirit, that cannot endure Slavery in it self, and abhors to be the Instrument of it in others. I ever exclaimed against the Court Maxime, *Live and let others Live*; and watch'd my fellow Ministers actions, as I desired they would mine, that our Master might not be defrauded, nor his Subjects oppress'd; and believing nothing could make *England* unhappy, but a change of our King's limited, legal Authority, into an unbounded Arbitrary Power, I always advis'd my Prince to a steady conformity to the Laws, to place his security on the affections of his Subjects, which this would gain him, and not on Guards or Army. These principles were not like to make me thrive in any Court. The apprehension I had, that the late King's Religion would carry him to that extreme, made me not only weary of his Service, but uneasy under his Govern-
ment, and desirous to change it for a better; which my first heat of fancy suggest'd I could not miss in a Protestant; but, my cooler thoughts, what I have already seen acted, and my Knowledge of what is further design'd convince me of my own and the Nations folly. The reports of *Char. II's* Murder, the Earl of *Essex's* Death, and a supposititious Prince of *Wales*, all Men of common sense knew to be false and malicious; but, I confess, I looked upon the noise of a League with *France* to be real; (yet without the ridiculous and spiteful addition of cutting the Protestants throats;) because the King's circumstances, especially the proceedings in *Ireland*, made it absolutely necessary for his own preservation. Yet now 'tis plain, this also was a pure invention, and that the *Dutch*, dull as they are, have out-witted the *English*; and by a trick drawn us into a War, to defend them against *France*: Nor is it less evident, that Monsieur d'*Armaux's* Memorial of the 9th. of September (88) to the States, (impudently

to have been the cause of the long before intended Invasion,) was, though a Gentiler, as meer a Stratagem: The King, his Master, not more ascertained of the Confederacy against himself, than of the *Hollander's* Preparations against K. *J.* hop'd by this flight of Generosity, to have wrought into his Interests, Him, who before had rejected his repeated offers of succour. 'Tis no wonder each Party should labour to get *England* on their side; the ballance of *Europe* put into either scale, must of necessity have made that out-weight the other: But now, too late, we find our King was too good a Christian, to believe his Son and Nephew could gratifie his Ambition, at so barbarous a rate; and too much an English-Man, to engage with *France*, against his Subjects Interests; which certainly was to ingross the Trade of the World, and safely look on, while the *French* and *Dutch* destroy'd each other. But alas! our want of wit, and others cunning, would not suffer us to be thus happy; fear of Slavery, artificially spread among the Gentry, and of Popery among the Commonalty, did not only make way for our ruine, but bewitched our selves to be the Instruments of it. We dreaded and roar'd against a standing Army of English, of Protestants, so zealous, that they would loose their reputation, rather than fight for their Popish King: Yet now we can kiss the rod that scourges us, tamely suffer an Army of Forreigners, of Popish, or of no Religion; who will execute, with joy, the Commands of our new K. their General; whose will, and whose interest it is to enslave us. You have long known my Opinion about Religion, and the force of it, among Men of refined Understandings: I laugh at all sorts of bigotry, and prefer our own Religion to Popery, not as more agreeable to Truth, but as established by Law; Disputes of this Nature ought, in my Mind, to be banished the Common-Wealth, at least, confin'd to the Schools; nor should I trouble my Head, nor would any Man that wanted not Brains, what Religion a lawful Parliament put down, or set up; provided we could but be secured against Slavery, and the loss of Abby Lands. Nor need I tell

R/S/C
Sta. Mill 843 #3
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153-2

is not a more natural consequence of Popery, than of Presbitery, or any other Sect. If from what I write, you cannot gather why I make not the same Figure in the State I lately did, read the inclosed advice to our new K. and communicate it, but one by one, to our Friends, the Earls of K. and of B. the Bp. of ---- and the rest of our knot; 'tis, Word for Word, taken from the Original, and it is what cleared my Eyes, and gave me a full prospect into the bottom of the design; which, after I had for some time laboured in vain to cross, I made a Leg and withdrew; concluding it base and ignoble, for an *English* Peer, to joyn in Council, or act in Concert with a *Dutch* ----, a *French Hugonot*, and a *Scotch Presbyterian*, under a King without Title, whose Religion is Policy, and whose *No-Title* and Policy must be supported by a strong Army, the subversion of the State, and the Conquest of *England*.

The inclosed Paper was in the following Words.

S I R,

Hitherto, it is true, your Affairs seem to have succeeded prosperously; you have got a Crown, and you have got it with ease; but it cannot be preserv'd, without difficulty. Your Interest, as P. of O. Statholder of *Holland*, is very different from your Interest, as K. of *England*; but since you are the one, and yet for some time must be the other, your game is the harder, and requires double the skill, that when you landed was necessary. The Prince of *Orange*, as Head of the Protestant League, (which among our selves we must own this to be, notwithstanding that the *Spaniards* natural aversion to the *French*, and the growing Greatness of their Monarchy, have drawn in to it, the whole House of *Austria*, and the other Popish Princes of *Germany*.) is engaged in an Alliance, the K. of *England* ought, in prudence, to have avoided: *Charles V.* and *Philip II.* have sufficiently proved the Universal Monarchy a fantastick Dream, impracticable, impossible; besides the Nature and Situation of the *English* Dominion, insufficiently secure it against *French* Inroachments. *England* therefore, in this conjuncture, should have stood Neuter, and enjoyed the great advantages of Commerce;

her Rivals, for this reason ever to be suspected and kept under, were interrupted by Wars, increased her Naval strength, by building new Ships, repairing the old, and filling her Magazines with all necessary Stores, and erected Forts and Block-houses where wanting, to secure her against Invasion. The Treaty of *Nimeguen*, if it could at all affect the late K. could not have obliged him to act otherwise: The War being on *France's* side purely defensive; their being beforehand in declaring, after they were convinced of the Confederacy, makes no alteration; 'tis an effect of the nimbleness natural to that Nation, to make the fit pass when they see their Enemies ready to fall on. But though Neutrality be the true Interest of *England*, and must have been the late King's, supposing him a Stranger to the Invasion, and sure of his Subjects, yet can it not, for the present, be yours; who have and must carry on, an Interest directly contrary to the Peoples, till you are better settled in the Throne, and have forced the *English* to be indeed your Subjects. This done, you may (as the *Dutch* did in the last Confederacy, and, as it is to be feared, they will again, when they perceive in your acceptance of the Crown, the ill effect of their own Politicks) prevent all others by a separate Peace. In the mean time, you must mind your own, and not the Nation's Interest, and proceed with your Confederates, as Prince of *Orange*; they will, without doubt, desire, as the States have already done, that you would as K. of *England*, renew and confirm the Alliance, and declare War against *France*; you will for a while stand in need of their help, and find, though they think otherwise, much greater advantage by their assistance, than they can have by yours; a Truth they cannot but discover, if they reflect upon the three principal Causes of this stupendious Revolution. First, *The temper of the English, a heady, resolute, inconsiderate, unconstant People.* Secondly, *The incompatibility and natural aversion of Protestant Subjects to a Popish Prince; the Church of England, in vain, endeavours to exempt it self from this Character; their Publick Actions in the three last Reigns, their Acts of Parliament, Tests, Bill of Exclusion, and Rye-house Conspiracy, make them just of the same stamp with the rest; and they cannot, without insufferable imputation, be content, that their true use of*

et sic, that the whole People of England are, in the end, become Presbyterians, irreconcilable Enemies to a Popish Monarch, *Sogross* on a *Truff*, must not betray you, into a trust and confidence of their Loyalty, as it did your Predecessor, (who seem'd, at least, to forget the voice of the Nation, That the Duke of *Tork* had no fault but his being a Papist, to make him unfit to Govern and Succeed,) unless you will be content to run his Fortune and Reputation. The Third and chiefest was, the King's want of an Army; which, he could not be properly said to have, so long as they were Protestants, (before Papists among them deserv'd not to be considered under a Name) and taught, it was against Conscience to draw in defence of a Popish King; the event has shown that Religion had padlocked their Swords, and bound up their Hands; otherwise he could never have picked up and trained such a number of Men, all resolv'd either to fight against him, or run away from him. These, Sir, are the Shelves on which he was shipwacked, as you likewise must be, unless you steer a contrary course. Your new Subjects will be still the same, and, upon second thoughts, cannot but repent, what inconsideration made them Act hand over head; your being a Protestant Will not secure you: the odds between a Dutch Presbyterian, and an English Papist, are, in the Church of England Men's Opinion, either none at all, or so very inconsiderable, that they cannot turn the Scales, or give you any advantage. You are sensible with what difficulty your Party, in the two Houses, got the better of those who were for calling back *K. J.* on terms, and of those who were for setting up a Commonwealth: These two Parties will always be your Enemies, you cannot hope to make them Converts; nor that the third will be long, either willing, or able to support your Cause: So that nothing but an Army can do your business: an Army, to the number of fifty or sixty thousand, not of English, but Outlandish men: who will fight to make you great, what a King ought, and what the King of England needs most to be, Master of his Subjects. *Leopold's* standing out, which seems a Cross, is, on the contrary, a Blessing, an opportunity, that well managed and improved, will establish your Dominion. Till you have gained this point, you must not only keep fair, but Court and Flatter the Parliament, at least, till you have engaged

both may be the effect of their own advice. Your seeming to share the Sovereignty, they have long ambitioned, is the most proper bait to catch your Fish; it will persuade them to find Money for the expence, and heretofore screen you from the Peoples murmurings. You have already given orders for modelling the Fleet and Army, and wisely resolv'd to employ in neither, nor in Civil Offices, any English, but such as are Men of no Fortune, or irreconcilable Enemies to your Predecessor. Endeavour to keep, as possible, all the Dutch Troops, and to exchange for them as many English; the *Nimwegen* Treaty, in which, if for no other reason, you must pretend the Nation engaged, will rid you of 8000 of 'em; some you may dispatch towards *Chester*, in order to the Irish Expedition; and others you may march towards the borders, to be called into *Scotland*, in case *Makay* should find himself too weak, to aw the Convention and reduce *Edinburg* Castle. *Scotland* is too dangerous a back door to be left open; you ought therefore to be well secured of it, before you think of carrying your Arms further; the Nobility and Presbytery govern there absolutely; you have already a list of both, with convenient remarks; all sorts of Coin will pass among them, and 'tis very necessary you prevent, by good store of Guineas, the course of *Luidon's*, in a Kingdom long allied to *France*, and heretofore useful in their Wars with *England*. You cannot better dispose of the Irish in the Isle of *Wight*, than by making them a present to the Emperor, for his War against the Turk, to prevent desertion, if employed nearer home. When matters are thus settled, you may safely turn your Face towards *Spain*, where, though you could, you could not to make an end of the War in one campaign; though of this caution there is much to be considered, that the long Parliament was not able, with an old Army of 6000, and a treasure of several Millions, to make it, in less than four years, from *June* 42 till *September* 53. when destitute of foreign assistance, broken into Factions, great and insupportable by a seven years Rebellion and Civil War; a condition very different from their present. They have enjoyed the fruits of a long Peace, are united as one Man, thousands of 'em have learn'd the Art of War abroad; and were not reputed to want courage: yet, allowing them a great Cowards

stake, their All, Life, Liberty, Fortune, and Religion, they cannot but fight manfully, especially when headed by their own Prince, and supported by *France*. *K. James's* over-sights here, will instruct him how to act there; the Protestants he will disarm, and imprison, at least, the Chief of them, and seize all their Corn and Cattel: *Londonderry*, if he do not take, he will starve, before you can succour it: and, the Papists being reckoned twenty to one Protestant, he cannot want men for several Armies; nor Arms, Ammunition, nor Money, while the French *K.* stands his Friend; who thereby eludes the threaten'd Invasion from *England*, distracts and weakens its Power, and employs the whole of it, without the least service or advantage to the Confederates; and who, perhaps, will further enable him to land some thousands in *Scotland*; 'tis a short cut to the Highlands, where they will be join'd by greater Numbers of those wild People, who long for an opportunity to enrich themselves by the spoils of *England*. Whence it is plain, that the reduction of *Ireland*, is like to prove a Work of time, and of much greater difficulty, than the Protestants of that Kingdom would persuade you; and you will find that a compleat Conquest of it will require vast numbers of Men, divided into several Armies, and your being Master, not only at Sea, but also your employing, constantly, a second Fleet, to transport hence Provisions, for the subsistence of those Armies. The fatigues of the first Campaign, lying in the Field, scarcity of Victuals, and the Flux, which the English never miss, and therefore call it that Country Disease. will discourage your new Subjects, consume their best Troops, and make Men, already effeminated by idleness and Luxury, (the usual Concomitants of Peace and Trade,) quite weary of the Service. However, the importance of *Ireland* to *England*, the Trade, Strength, and Safety of this, depending upon that Kingdom's being continued a Member of its Dominion, will necessitate the Parliament to beg your regaining it on any terms, and consent, for that purpose, to your bringing in *Danes*, *Swedes*, *Germans*, *Dutch*, and *Swissers*; who, having done your work in *Ireland*, will afterwards with ease perfect it here, make you the most absolute Prince, that ever sway'd the Sceptre of *England*. But, in the mean time, you must not seem to affect any such thing, but rather seem content with the Name of King

chiefly to the Commons, who holding the Purse-strings of the Nation, ought to have most of your compliance and condescensions: As for the Lords, 'tis enough to engage in your Interests, by charges of Honour, rather than profit, as many as you can of the rich and popular: their Numbers, as well as other accidents, have made their House the less considerable of the two; and it will be for your service to treat them accordingly. After all, you must presuppose the English will, ere long, grow weary of your Government; and also that the Confederates may come to be so of the War, before you are able to stand upon your own Legs: the extraordinary charge must make the First uneasie; and the others, disappointed of your promised assistance, may possibly give credit to what your Enemies will suggest, that you have out-witted them, and solicited a League more to gratifie your own Ambition, than for the Common Good, to humble *France*. The Parliament having once advised you to the War, will be too far engaged to draw back, or think of a change; but to make your self sure on that side, you must hasten your Army to hinder it, in case they should: To prevent the misfortune from abroad, you must speedily possess your Allies, by Envoys and Ministers, that the Crown of *England* was freely offered, and not sought by you; that the disposal 't was the People's Rights; and that their assistance to confirm you in the Possession is necessary, to hinder the Common Enemies being enabled, as otherwise he certainly will, by the late King's united Power, to swallow the Spanish Netherlands, subdue *Holland*, and give Law to the Empire and the rest of *Europe*. Your Protestant Allies you must persuade, by remonstrating the necessity of their firm adhesion, on a double account, *Religion*, and *Temporal Interest*. The States you must sweeten, more particularly by repaying their 600000 *l.* and farther promising what advantages they please in the Trade of both the *Indies*. Nor must you spare the Wealth of *England*, to draw the *Dane* and *Swede* into a stricter Alliance: the first may probably be won by the prospect of his Brother's Interest in the Succession: and the latter prevailed upon by a considerable yearly Pension, unless a foresight of his own future ruine from Denmark, when strengthened by Prince *George's* Possession of the Crown of *England*, should make him deaf to your Proposals. It were to be

with you, in sending abroad his Agents, and filling all Courts of his own profession with his Manifesto's; making a jest of the Parliament and its Pretences, his own Abdication, and your Election; justifying all his Actions, even the Dispensing Power, as conformable to the Laws and essential to the nature of all Government; acquitting himself from all things, but his being a Papist; representing the League to be all over Protestant, and design'd, at last, for the total overthrow of the Popish Religion: You know how much this Prince is the Jesuits Darling, and what influence they have in the Emperor's and all other Courts of Europe; and how probable it is that upon this Pope's Death, which cannot be far off, another may be chosen, more zealous for the promotion of his Religion, than for pulling down France, its chief support; which considerations cannot but quicken you in this point. Now, that you may begin your Reign, as Princes in your circumstances used to do, by some Acts of Popularity, recommend to the Parliament the taking off the Chimney-Money, (which seems a burden on the poorer sort: you need not fear but what they thus take away with one hand, they must give back with another, till they have put you into a condition to carve for your self:) and also a Bill of Union, or Comprehension, of all your Protestant Subjects; and though it is possible neither may succeed, especially the last, to which the Church Party are not like to consent; the Clergy in Possession having always been averse to any change in their Popish Common-Prayer-Book, and much more to let others share their Titles and Benefices; the Propositions nevertheless will be very advantageous to you, in the love and esteem of the generality of the People. As for Religion, (the common Cloak for Rebellion, but never a security against one,) you ought to consider it, and the several Sects into which it is divided, no farther than as may best serve and promote your Interest: In publick seem to favour the Church of England, because the Laws, the Nobility, and best estated Gentry are of its side; underhand, the Presbyterians, and other Nonconformists are to be caressed; the Numbers, the Trade, the Riches, and your Protestant Allies are of their side; the Romanists you must likewise study to oblige; this may possibly in time wean them

from K. J. and will please a considerable part of your Army, and your Confederates of the same Opinion; who must be taught to infer from your Actions, that what is in your Declaration against Popery, as your Ministers abroad must also insinuate, was only a Blind, a necessary Cant to persuade the English to receive, and the Parliament to enable you to invade France the following Spring, by obliging their King to join in the War, the main end of your hazardous Winter Voyage. Thus, Sir, in obedience to your Commands, we have freely and briefly given your Majesty our Opinion; concluding, that Cowardize, Treachery, and an innate desire of Change having given you the Crown, nothing can secure it, but such a formidable Army as we have described; this when you have compassed, you may safely assume the Title of Conqueror, and, after the Example of *W.* the First, reserve for your Self what Land you please, and divide the rest among your Followers; settle in all your Dominions, such Religion, Laws, and form of Government, as shall best suit with your own Grandeur, and the extent of your Empire; But if you trust an English Army, though never so great, and despise our advice, the touchstone of sincere Councillors, your Reign will be short, and your Ruine inevitable: For when your Subjects reflect, they have changed a firm Peace for a lasting War, that the Flower of their Youth is destroyed, by Land and Sea, their Freedom from Taxes turned into a Grievous Load of endless Impositions, their Trade lost, their Rents fallen, and the Nation reduced from a Rich and Glorious, to a poor contemptible People; and to complete their Misery, next door to be enslaved by Foreigners, that they have brought all these Evils upon themselves, to secure their Religion, now really exposed to Calvinism or Lutheranism, extreams, in their Opinions, equally pernicious with Popery, of which, before, the danger was indeed but imaginary; they will, without doubt, repent, and contrive such a general Revolution, as happen'd in 1660, when both the Fleet and the numerous Army, in the three Kingdoms, conspired with the rest of the English to call back their exil'd Prince, The same causes cannot but produce the same effects; you will therefore live to see your self more shamefully fly out of England, than you came into it triumphantly, if the desire of

same, and the sense of your own safety, make you not betimes provide against the Storm, and imprint on your Mind, that it is more Great and Glorious, to owe a Crown to Merit, than to Chance; to get a Kingdom by Conquest, rather than by Birth:

Which is humbly submitted, &c.

I Have, at last, after above four Months irresolution, concluded, I could not better serve my Friend, or my Country, than by publishing his Letter, and the good Advice given our new King; every Body will see a Plot is laid for the ruine of *England*; and none can wonder, a Lord, of his great Sense and great Estate, should refuse to be an Actor in the Tragedy; wherein he would not have seem'd, to long, to have born a part, as he has since often vow'd, if he had not had the vanity, to have hoped he could have perswaded his Master to have been an English K. to have made good his Declarations, his Promises, and his Oaths, to have sent back his Foreign Troops, and called a free Parliament, to reform and settle all our Disorders: But had not he had a large share in our common insatiation, one so renown'd could not have expected this from the P. of O. who could not be well supposed to have made them, but with purpose to break them, as soon as they had smooch'd his way to the Crown; no Man in his Wits could imagine, he meant to be a Slave to his Word, or *trust the Loyalty of Man, let me his Subjects, by Treachery to their own Prince*; and it was more ridiculous to believe, That, after he got to be K. he would make good the obligations he had, in order to it, put himself under, than it would be for a Wife to hope from her Husband, the performance of the Vows he made her when a Lover. *He that, without regard to Humane or Divine Laws, had trampled upon the Rights of an Uncle, Brother, Father, and Wife, was not like to be restrained by Rules of his own prescribing.* We are well enough serv'd, and can justly blame none but our selves, He understands his Interest and pursues it, though we did, and still do, grossly mistake ours. Our Treasons have been useful to him, and he rewards us with hatred and contempt, and cannot believe himself safe, unless he make us Slaves. He will force us, with the Act in the

Apologue, dearly to repent our change of Masters. And if we do not account a lasting War, both at Sea and Land, insupportable Taxes, loss of Trade, hundreds of our Ships (and among them not a few Royal ones) lost by Storm, and made Prize by *France*; 14000 of our Army, that was to have Conquered *Ireland* before last *Michaelmas*, destroyed without fighting, eaten up by Lice, Flux, and Famine; and above 5000 of that in *Flanders* lost by Hunger, Disease, and Desertion; 7000 of our ill-man'd Fleet Dead, and above 4000 more Sick; most poyson'd by stinking rotten Victuals, for want of French Salt; an evil like to continue next year also; unless we, who are far from being Masters at Sea, can take it by force; frequent Robberies, barbarous Murders, and licentious Extravagancies, of *Danes* and *Germans*, tokens of the Wrath of Heaven, and punishments for our crime, We shall be concluded to have as little fear of God, as we have had Honour for the K. But all this we suffer, and *more we are yet like to suffer*, to be delivered from the frightful Bugbears of *Pepery*; from Fire and Fagot, broiling and burning in *Smithfield* and *St. Johns*; dangers, only of our own devising, whispered about by Knaves, and swallowed by Fools: To avoid being consumed by these painted Flames, we have plunged our selves into a real Sea of Misery, and without a Miracle (which we Protestants, who believe them ceased, must not hope for) cannot scape drowning. We have long complained of a Design, in the three last Reigns, to introduce the French Form of Government, and subvert our own; make the Parliament a Cypher, serve for nothing but to burthen the Nation with Taxes, to support a Standing Army, and make our Kings Absolute. If ever there was ground for this Outcry, there is at this day, when the Name of Parliament is made use of, to uphinge the very Fundamentals, undermining in few Hours, by a servile compliance with an Usurper, our Laws, our beloved *Magna Charta*, what our Ancestors were a building up, hundreds of years, with a great deal of Toil and Blood, to enable their new Master by excessive Impositions, four Millions, and 800000 *l. Sterk.* over and above the ordinary Revenue, in less than one years time, to raise an Army, under pretence of un-necessary and destructive Wars, not of *English*, but of *Strangers*; not

to conquer others, but to enslave our selves; so bare-faced a violation of our Rights and Liberties, was never before attempted by any of our Lawful Kings, or their reputed Pensioners: But is not this the Summ Total of our Convention, nick-named Parliament, proceedings? What good this immense profusion of our Treasure has produced, is but too well known: Nor can it but Stomack every true English-Man, that 60000 l. of it should be given to the States of *Holland*, for contributing to our Ruine, to serve themselves; their *Manifesto* of the 23th. of *October*, has told us plainly, but falsely, *That having understood the Kings of France and England, had entered into a League, to subvert their State, they had therefore assisted the P. of O. in his enterprise.* Had there been any such League, our K. would not have refused the French King's offered Succours; which were sufficient to have prevented our Calamities, and the loss of his Crown: But from a Common-Wealth of Merchants and Hucksters, whose Policy and Religion is Interest and Gain, we are not to expect Truth, or Integrity, Conscience, or Honour. Our Parliament had no sooner perfected the Money Bills, and resolved, with a true zeal, and the wonted courage of their Predecessors, to rouse themselves up from their shameful slumbers, and enter in good earnest upon methods of redressing the mismanagement of the Revenue, the ill conduct of the Fleet, non-payment of Seamen's wages, starving the Armies in Flanders and Ireland, the false Musters in all, the Navy Commanders pirating upon our Merchants, the Dutch and Danish Insolencies, the illegal free-quartering of Soldiers, our other many Publick Grievances, and the ill state of the Nation, than they were kicked out of Doors, as impertinent Medlers in what was not their proper business, with a surprizing Prorogation, and a ridiculous barangue; deserving the credit, the exact performance of his former Declarations and Speeches have taught us to give; *That he is sorry the Taxes are so heavy on the People, and that he intends to free them from the charge, by a speedy reduction of Ireland;* against his Interest and his Practice, pursuant to the excellent advice given him; all which plainly prove, the spinning out this War, is the only certain way to his End, a Despotick Arbitrary Power: The Demonstrations of this Truth, and our Misery, are but too many, and

too evident. His now summoning another Convention of Lords and Commons, by the Name of Parliament, is not to remove, or lessen our burden, not to satisfy, but amuse, by Coaxing and Cajoleries, the City and Country enraged at their Oppressions and the unexpected dissolution of the former; to gain time, for bringing in the rest of his Body of Foreigners; the intended Instruments of our Slavery, and to try, whether the Church of England-Men, whom he inwardly hates and fears, will be catched with chaff, prove kinder, greater fools than the Presbyterians, grant him more Money, more than the already impoverish'd Nation can bear, enough to enable him to compass his End, an Absolute boundless Power, under the plausible pretence of reducing Ireland; which, reduced his way, would indeed put an end to Parliament Taxes, but not to his more Grievous Impositions. He thinks it mean to cringe, and court, and ask for Money, and longs to throw off his Vizard, to be in a condition to take it as his own, when, and in what proportion he shall please. If his common Cant, and empty Words, which he has been always used to give, prevail with his new Parliament, he will soon despise his equally bit-tered Conformist and Nonconformist Friends; laugh at all our Constitutions, and know no Law, but his own Will, and in the stile of *Our*, by him much envied, Neighbor, enforce his Edicts, to which Acts of Parliament must give place, with a *For such is our pleasure*; the only reason he would fain give of all his Actions. His Counsels, and his Proceedings here, and in *Holland*, sufficiently speak his Impetuous Humor, and that this is his ultimate design. If he would give the World the lye, and be gloriously just to himself, to his Word, to his Honour, and the good of England, which he pretends so much to affect, let him send back his Troops of Strangers, lay aside his Crown, and propose to both Houses at their Meeting, in March, the rewarding his extraordinary zeal for the Protestant Cause, the calling a Legal Free Parliament, to compose all our Disorders, and so to settle our Government for the future, that there may be no possibility of overturning our Laws, or our Religion, whether the Sovereign happen to be a Protestant, or a Papist, (he must be a stranger to Germany, and the Power of Parliaments, that thinks such a contrivance impossible,

or impracticable, his desire that what's past may be pardoned, and the Succession continued and provided for in the right Line, beyond the hazard of any illegal interruption. Such a generous proposition would quickly regain, and for ever establish our Peace and Trade, restore the distracted People to their Wits, and to their love of him, and prove no small argument to convince the many *Gain-sayers*, that the P. of O---y's *Dominion*, though short, was *founded in Grace*: But if, instead of this Heroick God-like temper, he should still insist, as we have cause to fear, upon his no-right of Possession, and playing the K. pres for more Subsidies, or, which is *sansamount*, a fond to enable him to raise his projected Army, for other ends than that specious one of Ireland: I hope the H. of Commons will be so sharp sighted, so honest and so wise, as to observe the Snake hid under this Grass, hold their hands, and not do his business, before their own and the Nations'; not part with a Shilling, till they have first secur'd us against Conquest and Slavery. They, who repre-

sent the People, need not be told, the generality of *England* wait but for the word, to shew they are yet able and ready to back, them with Lives and Fortunes, in the defence of their Liberty, Properties and Religion, when, and however they in Christian Politicks shall prescribe. The Armed strangers, which we, forgetful of Danish cruelties, have suffered to Land, are yet too few, to master our Women; but if there be not an immediate stop put to their Inundation, they will soon be an unequal Match, even for our Men. Upon the whole Matter, *Instead of a Moses, a Deliverer, as we were made believe, we have found a Pharoah, a heavy Task-Master; and, like true Northern Heroes, have caught a Tartar with a Wine-skin; and unless we resolve to shew our selves Men, English-Men, alike zealous for Glory, Liberty, and Life, and speedily call for Succour, a Free Parliament, and our old King, which alone can make one, we shall be devoured by Foreigners at home, and become the scorn of all the World abroad.*

Dat. 8. of Feb. 1689.

I N I S.







